Among the Men who Work with Hand or Brain

Heals Sick in 12 Lands, and Finds New Remedies Among Savage Tribes.

By H. Morrow.

DR. LYMAN B. BROWN, now retired as one of the wealthy men of Boston, has practiced and studied medicine in twelve parts of the world and adapted, from native practices of the tribes with which he has been thrown, scores of new ideas as to the treatment of the sick and the injured.

His home, in the Back Bay district, just off of Commonwealth avenue, is a museum of strange medicines and stranger surgical instruments that he has collected during his long life among the queer peoples of the world, among the savage, the semi-civilized, and the Bostonese.

Dr. Brown studied medicine at the old Starling medical college in Columbus, O., then under the charge of one of the greatest medical and surgical authorities the United States ever has known. He was completing his medical course and preparing to settle down to a staid, steady practice in his native city, when he suddenly became desirous of entering an entirely different line of work and volunteered for service as a medical missionary.

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Medical Missionary 23 Years.

He worked for twenty-three years in many parts of the globe, investigating, toiling, and studying the sicknesses, the wants, and the peculiarities of the people among whom he was sent, besides striving always to advance the cause of the religion of which he was a firm follower and preacher. He admits that he has during his long and busy career left the spiritual healing mainly to his coworkers and devoted himself to repairing the broken and wasted bodies, putting them into condition to receive spiritual aid more readily. After his long service as a missionary doctor he became an investigator on his own account, and for eleven years pursued his travels and investigations among savage peoples. Also he had four years of work with a company that formed an advance guard of civilization.

During these thirty-eight years of active, strenuous practice of medicine he saw many wild adventures and faced perils that would shake strong men; he lived in plague colonies, worked calmly among mobs of madmen when whole tribes were stricken with insanity, brought help and sustenance when death seemed the portion of an entire settlement.

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Averaged Less than $1,000 a Year

Sitting in his luxurious library in the Back Bay district, looking from his window across the Charles river toward Harvard, his ideal among schools, Dr. Brown laughingly estimated that his income during his thirty-eight years of practice had averaged less than $1,000 a year. He was wealthy originally and is now possessed of greater wealth acquired through legacies.

"I was first sent into Turkey as a medical missionary," said Dr. Brown. "That was in 1860, at the beginning of the missionary attempt to Christianize the Ottoman empire. I practiced medicine there under difficulties, contending with superstitions, customs, and habits that were enough to discourage any young man. Civilized medicine and surgery were too new fangled for those people. I remember well my first obstetrical case. The mother was not doing well and I was working hard to save her life, when suddenly I learned that my methods were not at all ethical. The mother insisted upon calling in a local physician for consultation. His methods were unique. First he started a fire under a brazier, and, when it was red hot, he dropped a clove into it and the clove burst open. That, I learned, indicated that the 'hazar,' or evil eye, had been averted and the mother would get well, I continued my treatment, however. The native physician, having discovered that the danger was passed, proceeded to discover a cure. He cut a wisp of hair from the head of the infant and a lock from the head of the mother and burned them together in the brazier. The woman got well—and we both claimed the credit.

"His treatment may have been the best, but I kept contending with those Turkish doctors for several years, and I never could convince them that killing a calf in a public place would not cure measles. They were hopeless.

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Work in Plague Ridden City.

"I labored among the Turks until late in 1871, then I was moved over to help cure and convert the people of Kerbela, in the Irak country. I did well there. They had little medicine except herbs and incantations, but the general health was good until December in 1873, when I began the experience of my life. In that year the bubonic plague broke out in Kerbela and the surrounding country, brought there, I suppose, by pilgrims who had been down into Persia. The treatment accorded the plague sufferers was brutal—and effective, for everyone who was treated by the local medicine men died sooner than they otherwise would have done. They treated them by burning brimstone and applying the hot mass to their backs. I tried scientific treatment according to our best methods, but, despite my efforts and those of the native doctors, over 20,000 died in five months. Towards the end I contracted the disease, but managed to cure myself, having fortified my system against it for weeks with medicines.

"I was sent into Africa after that, and my first experience was with the doctors in the Soudan, among the Arabs. They worked on the Galenic theory, and, I must confess, with some good results, although their system beats homeopathy all hollow. Old Galen would have rejoiced to see them. They worked on the theory of opposites—their medicines being hot, cold, wet, and dry. They give water for fevers and heat for colds—and they get some good results. They are the best practitioners I have found outside of civilization.

"It was fine practice down in the Soudan, despite the fact that they wanted to execute me as a witch when I cured headaches by administering a cathartic and such things.

"My next experience was in practicing on the Apingi—down in central Africa where the church had established a mission station. They are a strange people and cannibalism is rapidly disappearing. Fine fellows they are, and I performed some great amputations among them. I also discovered down there a leaf juice that is better than cocaine for deadening pain and apparently has less perilous effects. The Apingi pull their two upper incisor teeth, working them loose with their fingers, and they sharpen all the rest of their teeth to needle points. The effect on a stranger who knows their cannibalistic tendency is immense. I witnessed some interesting surgical and medical treatments while among them. For instance, I saw a woman who was suffering from leprosy and lumbago. I treated the lumbago with some success, but was displaced by a native physician. His treatment was heroic. He first tied the patient down to the ground and then marked off a large checkerboard on her back with a knife. Then he poured on cayenne pepper and lime juice in copious quantities and gave her a massage, rubbing in the combined juices. She seemed glad when I applied cocoa oils—but she died.

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New Treatment for Neuralgia.

"There was a subchief who was sick with neuralgia—intercostal neuralgia, superinduced by being kicked over an acre or two by an acquaintance. I was doing the best I could but he called in a rival doctor, who dug up the bones of his ancestors, burned them into chalk, and then marked on his body with them. After that the doctor lighted a bunch of grass in the fire and proceeded to scorch his body, spitting upon his patient during the process. The treatment did not appear to be doing any good, so the doctor claimed witches were persecuting the patient, and he accused three men in the tribe of employing the witches. They all denied it. To find out whether or not it was so each of the accused had to drink poison. They gulped down bowls of poison, they sweated and trembled in agony, but finally recovered, and proved they were innocent.

"I will admit that I gave each of the three ipecac to help prove their innocence. The witch doctor then took the poison and I withheld the ipecac—but he got well anyhow, having taken poison before.

"I was sent up into Ovampoland, among the Hereros, and encountered scurvy. Every man in the tribe was suffering from it. I secured lemon juice and held up a Portuguese steamer for a peck of potatoes, and cured them all. It was a strange form of scurvy, for the tribe will eat no salt at all, and I was forced to squeeze the juice from potatoes and mix it with salt to get them to take any, for I argued that the disease resulted partly from lack of salt in the systems.

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Medical Practice Under Difficulties

"The following year we moved up into Nyasaland, among another of the Bantu tribes, and had more trouble in practicing medicine than a faith curist would have at an allopathic convention. They believe there that death results from three causes—from the will of God, from warfare or murder, and from witchcraft. All persons who die a natural death are supposed to be victims of witches. I had most of the practice there, for while they were hunting witches I was giving pills—and I saved them and made reputations for a lot of rivals.

"Then I got worn out at the missionary service and started on my own investigations. I practiced first among the Veddas, in Ceylon, for a year. They are the strangest people I ever met. They are, in the first place, the thinnest and most emaciated race in the world. The anti-fat specialist who would advocate their methods would grow rich. I tried to fatten a few of them, and succeeded, but they did not appreciate it, for, in the eyes of their friends, they were hideous. These people never wash and they never laugh—so they never grow fat.

"From there I went into Burma and hung up my shingle among the Chins, one of the finest people I ever met. They are akin to the Chinese. Cholera came among them while I was there, but this time I did better. The native method of treating cholera is to go out into the bushes with guns and hunt evil spirits. The lessons I learned in the Irak country proved valuable. I succeeded in stopping human sacrifices. The people of Banzam, where I practiced, claimed that some one had been cutting the sacred groves, and they hunted for those criminals all the time, letting me do all the practicing.

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Medicine Too Mild for Siberians.

"After that I determined to get into a colder climate, and, for one winter, I practiced among the Koriaks, up near the base of the Kamchatkan peninsula. My methods were too mild for them. The way a native physician treats a sick man there is to catch him by the heels and drag him around the house. Then, if he does not get up and go to work and pretend he is cured, he is killed. I saved a couple of patients by massaging stiff muscles.

"That practice was too strenuous for me, and the next year found me studying new systems of medicine up in the Australian bush. Here I came in conflict with the 'blackfellow' doctor, who is quite as effective as the ordinary American quack. These doctors fly up in the air at night and come down trees, and they throw Bristol diamonds at patients during the darkness. They have, according to their patients, a bone in their stomachs, and splinters of it are caused to enter their patients and cure the disease. They see old man kangaroos in their dreams and they carry 'plongges,' or big clubs, with which they touch enemies and cause them to die. No man among them ever dies a natural death—but all are killed by witchcraft and the main treatment of patients consists in leaving them alone and hunting the witches—which is the best part of their system. They did not take kindly to my treatments.

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Fights Consumption Among Maoris

"For over two years I fought galloping consumption among the Maoris in New Zealand—but it was useless. One can't cure consumption and it would take a century to educate the natives into preventive measures—and by that time they will all be dead. The women wear furs, heavy cloaks, flannels, rugs, and wraps while making calls and then come home and dress in a thin cotton skirt. They seek pleasure at the dampest spot they can find and the edge of a swamp is their favorite building site. The men wear overcoats in summer and leave them off in winter and they all live together.

"They are dying like sheep, but they refuse to change their customs, so there is no use for physicians—what they need is grave diggers.

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How Hawaiians Cure Indigestion.

"Finally I wound up my career as a physician among the Hawaiians and combated the priests trying to practice medicine while they hunted witches and evil spirits. I was not ethical and got little trade.

"I was present at one 'cure.' The girl patient had an acute attack of indigestion, and I persuaded her to take some salts. Meantime the priest accused a man of inciting evil spirits to enter the girl's body and make her sick. The accused was required to hold his hand over a bowl of water. If it trembled he was guilty. I noticed the priest rise up and come down, and the water shook into ripples, so the man was scourged and the evil spirits left the girl's body. I left her another dose of salts and started home.

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Little Worse than Americans.

"Even so, these strange peoples whom I have tried to cure are but little worse than we. I found several valuable herb remedies among them, and, even in their witch hunts, they are but little more superstitious regarding sickness than the people of the United States.

"Whenever I see a man carrying a buckeye in his pocket to cure a local disease I think of the witch hunts—and I must say that the witch hunters usually gave strenuous doses of herbs just before starting out to hunt the witch."

Chances for Boy in Railway Office.

By J. Howard.

THERE is romance and magic in the name railroad to many a young man. It spells motion, variety, even romance. Even the work of the big railroad office appears less monotonous to most of the young men who seek employment there than the work of a big wholesale house or a store. They are apt to be disappointed if they manage to secure work in such an office, for the work of the general railroad office is just the ordinary hard work of the big, busy office. Perhaps the work in them is harder than in the others, by reason of the great amount which is often handled at short notice, the big rush seasons, etc., but, on the whole, it is much the same.

However, they are intimately connected with the running of trains, and the clerk in a railroad office can rightly lay claim to being a "railroad man."

As to the opportunities that will open to the young man in the employ of a great railroad company, they are many. While the majority of the railroad officials come from the ranks of the operating department, telegraph operators, train dispatchers, and station agents, there are plenty of them who began work as clerks in the main offices and worked out into the broader departments. It is a saying with railroad men in high places that it takes a certain number and kind of qualifications to make a man adapted to the railroad business. What these qualifications are and how a man is to tell whether or no he has them are not easily explained, but the officials of most roads like to believe that they can pick out those who "would make good railroad men" from those who would not.

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Promotion of Good Men Certain.

When a man has succeeded in showing that he will make a good railroad man he is in direct line for promotion right up to the highest positions in the gift of a road, for in the railroad service as in no other kind of work is the rule of merit strictly adhered to. Incompetency in an official of any kind means a weak link in the great chain that composes a road, and with competition in railroad circles at the white heat that it is today no road can afford to have a weak spot anywhere in its service. Efficiency is absolutely demanded, so the young man who has the ability and energy necessary need have no fear that there will not be room for him when it is time he was promoted. Railroading is one of the businesses that are not overcrowded so far as the capable man is concerned.

The rule for the engaging of employés that obtains with the railroads is the same that will be found in any high class office. A man with experience in office work is the man who is most wanted. The man who is entirely new in the business world must start at a small salary. A boy stands a good chance of being employed as a messenger or office boy. The pay that will be received at the start will vary from $20 a month to $80, according to the person's age and experience. A good clerk is better paid in a railroad office than in most others.

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Good Pay for Experienced Men.

If a man has one or two years of experience in office work he should have no trouble in getting $60 a month to start with. Sixty-five probably is the average pay of the ordinary clerk. If he shows great aptitude for the work he should be earning $70 within his first year of employment. He may get as high as $80 per month as a clerk. To earn more than this he must win a chief clerkship or a small executive position. The work that falls to the lot of the railroad clerk is hard and exacting, and there is much of it. Night work is no novelty in the large office, and in the busy seasons the office men come as near to being "rushed to death" as any class of workers.

Promotion is slow from the general offices. The clerk is most fortunate who is taken out of it and sent out to work in a small office on the road, or as secretary or clerk for a traveling official. In this manner he is given the chance to learn railroading from the practical side without the theory, and the practical man is the kind that railroads want in their highest positions. Still, the number of men who have worked up from the offices shows that there is also a chance there. A chief clerk has a chance to show that he possesses the requisite ability for handling men and that he is personally the kind of man who will work for the advancement of his road's interests.

A natural aptitude and liking for railroad work are properly the great qualities that will make a man in this line. A man who might make an excellent salesman may be as far out of place in railroading as a pig in a parlor, a man who would fail miserably as a salesman may develop into a good railroad man. The work is peculiar and its requirements keep pace with it. A man should be possessed of unlimited energy, the ability to rough it if necessary, and to undergo actual hardships if necessary before he starts out on the chase of a big position, for these things are apt to be part of his lot, even after the big position is acquired. Night is the same as day to the railroad man, and his home is apt to be anywhere along his company's lines.

The young man starting in should from the beginning resolve to make a study of not only his work but of railroad work in general and of his road's trend in particular. Every phase of it he should try to familiarize himself with, for it is by thus being prepared to go in and fill a gap at a moment's notice that a man's chance often comes in railroad circles. Telegraphy is valuable to the railroad man. One officer of a western road owes his start to the fact that when a clerk in a Denver office he learned how to take and send messages. While acting as clerk for a traveling officer the opportunity came for him to save a train from certain wreckage through his knowledge of Morse. The official took notice and soon the young clerk came to work in his office as a confidential secretary.

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Opportunities to Rise Plentiful.

Opportunities such as this are plentiful in railroad life. In fact, it is a business of chances, chances for death and injury to the men of the operating departments and chances for quick failure or success. Ability to see and act quickly, to grasp big things and handle them without confusion, to be able to work through nights without rest if necessary and then ride for hundreds of miles to some other place—these are the things that the railroad official is called upon to do. To the man who can do this there are chances a-plenty in this line; for the one who cannot it is a poor line to go into.

Raising Dogs May Be Made to Pay.

By Tom Slavin.

RAISING dogs for the market offers the enthusiastic canine fancier the opportunity to indulge his fancy to satiety and make a living at the same time. By the same token it is probably only the most enthusiastic fancier who can enter the business with any hope of success, for the woes and troubles of the dog raiser, whether he raises small dogs or large ones, dogs for the pet market or dogs for the hunting field, fancy breeds, or "just dogs" are many and disconcerting. Because of this and because it is only the dog crank who has the inclination or knowledge necessary to the start of a dog farm, there is no danger of this line of stock raising becoming overcrowded, despite the limited demand for the dog in America.

Of the men who go in to raise dogs on a large scale those who devote their time and money to breeding the hunting dog of all kinds stand the best show of making a consistent income than any one, excepting of course the man who is fortunate enough to possess a breed of pet or show dog whose name has made his kennel famous in the dog world.

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Money in Well Bred Dogs.

Well bred, well trained hunting dogs are always in good demand, in fact, there is never a time when a man with a good hunting dog cannot realize on it, and the sportsman is never inclined to haggle about the price of a dog when he is buying one. Thus the hunting dog raiser is in a position where the question of his income is only a question of the number of dogs that he can breed, raise, and train into mature doghood.

The bird dog is the desired of all hunting dogs, from the viewpoint of the sportsman or the dog raiser. He is in greater demand, because more dogs are used in bird hunting than in other lines of hunting, and he is less troublesome to raise and less liable to illness than many other strains. The big, rangy Irish setter, the Gordon setter of a good breed, and the pointer are the dogs favored in this line. All of them find their backers, both as show dogs and hunters, and they are all "good raisers." The better a dog is bred, the better he is, not only from a commercial standpoint but physically. He is not so liable to fall ill as the dog of inferior breed and this, coupled with the fact that he is worth much more when sold, makes it desirable for the raiser to keep his breed up as high as possible.

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Early Training of Bird Dog.

To train the bird dog a beginning is made when he is a puppy, before he has begun to form any habits or traits of character. His first lesson is to learn to obey. This is also the greatest lesson that he is put through. It is the basis upon which the rest of his training is built. After he learns this first lesson he is taken into the field, where his training progresses, the work generally being done with an old, steady dog as a companion. The puppy is taught to imitate the old dog as much as he will; he is taught to come to a point, to heel, and to stand stanch when the gun is fired over him.

His lessons are many and hard in the first two years of puppyhood, but when they are learned thoroughly the puppy is a trained dog with a market value of from $50 to $500 on his head, according to breeding, age, and the man whom he is being sold to.

Sometimes a dog is sold on the day of his birth, to be delivered a year later, if he is alive and well trained, to the purchaser. This is often the case where the dog is of excellent breeding. While it would seem that at the above prices a dog raiser could grow rich in a hurry, there are drawbacks to the business. Puppies sicken and die, often without apparent cause; sometimes they refuse to train well, and there is always the danger of accident ending the young dog's career of usefulness.

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Market for Other Hunters.

The bird dog is not the only class of hunting dog that is in active demand. There is always call for the foxhound, bred and trained to follow a trail in a satisfactory manner. While most hunting clubs make a specialty of raising their own dogs, there is always a call for good dogs of this kind. The selling prices do not run as high as the bird dog, but there is much less trouble in raising them and less cost. Even the dog that will chase the little rabbit is a salable article when properly trained, and there are two or three large kennels in the country that make a specialty of raising rabbit hounds. These are low set hounds, of almost any small breed, bred with a view of decreasing the speed of leg and increasing the keenness of scent at the same time.

The marvels that may be accomplished through continued breeding with one point in view is shown by the shape of the hounds turned out to hunt rabbits. They are extremely short legged and they will take a trail and hold it steadily for hours at a time, at a pace just calculated to keep the quarry moving without driving it into its hole. Some of these dogs are sold at high as $100.

But of all the dogs trained for the hunting field the bear hound is the most interesting, both in breeding and training. Despite that the bear no longer is numerous in many sections of the country, there is a dog raiser in Kentucky who raises nothing but bear dogs and who sells all the dogs he can raise. Some of these dogs are sold in the southern states, many in the extreme western, and a few in the north. They are guaranteed to find bear wherever there is any to be found, and to keep from getting killed, which is the prime virtue of a bear dog.

The bear hound is the largest of his type, usually crossed with a Siberian bloodhound, sometimes a bulldog, and sometimes even the calm collie. He is big of bone and strong of mouth, but his strong forte is his ability to avoid a bear's attack instead of fighting him. The manner in which he is trained is unique, to say the least, and suggests unlimited danger to the trainer. The natural instinct of a dog is to attack the front of everything. This means sudden, horrible death for doggy when the thing attacked happens to be a bear. So the trainer's work is to correct this inclination in the dog under his charge. He does it in a manner most thorough.

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Trainer Acts as Bear.

The trainer arrays himself in a bearskin, crawls on his hands and knees, and, roaring like the beast he represents, faces a crowd of ambitious puppies. Puppy, being of the proper breed, leaps ferociously at the head of the black thing before him. Then the lights go out for puppy for some time, for the trainer most unmercifully swats him with a club. When he comes to he tries the trick over again. Again he is rudely repelled.

After he has been knocked silly half a dozen times he learns that the front is the end of a bear to avoid, and he goes around to the rear to make his attack. Here there is padding for him to chew and worry to his heart's delight, and ever afterward it is there that he will devote his energies. When he meets a real bear he knows enough to follow him along and nip his hind legs, thus retarding his progress and avoiding punishment at the same time. A good bear dog is seldom sold for less than $100.

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Little Money in Raising Pets.

The fine pet dog offers little opportunity for the professional raiser. It is generally bred to a point where it is worth too much money for a man to have many about a farm and is extremely delicate as to health. Most pet dogs are raised by wealthy fanciers, who sell their surplus. The terrier that is trained to kill rats is much more salable than the pet, but the hunter is easily the market proposition in the dog line.